

Message Text

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S E C R E T STATE 235348

NODIS

FOR BRZEZENSKI

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION STEL AVIV INFO SECSTATE FROM
USDEL SECRETARY IN NEW YORK SEPT 30:

QUOTE S E C R E T SECTO 10007

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, US, UR, XF, IS

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION WITH ISRAELIS ON GENEVA WORKING PAPER

REF: SECTO 10003

1. HABIB AND ATHERTON MET WITH DAYAN, DINITZ, AND MEMBERS
OF DAYAN PARTY AT NOON, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29. AFTER EX-
TENDING SECRETARY'S PERSONAL APPRECIATION FOR MANNER IN WHICH
GOI HAD HANDLED LATEST GUSH EMUNIM EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH
UNAUTHORIZED SETTLEMENTS, HABIB GAVE DAYAN TEXT OF WORKING
PAPER ON GENEVA CONFERENCE CONTAINED PARAGRAPH 4 REFTTEL,
AMENDED TO ADD "EGYPT" AFTER "JORDAN" AND BEFORE "THE
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PALESTINIANS" IN PARAGRAPH 2.E. HABIB SAID THAT SECRETARY
HAD DISCUSSED WORKING PAPER WITH THE PRESIDENT, INCLUDING INITIAL
ISRAELI COMMENTS AND SUGGESTED CHANGES. PAPER AS IT NOW
STOOD REPRESENTS PRESIDENT'S VIEWS AND IS BEING GIVEN TO EACH
OF THE PARTIES. PRESIDENT IS SEEKING THE AGREEMENT
OF ALL THE PARTIES TO THIS FORMULATION BUT WE ARE
OBVIOUSLY PREPARED TO RECEIVE COMMENTS ANY OF THE PARTIES

MAY HAVE. HABIB STRESSED THAT WE CONSIDER THIS PAPER TO BE AN INFORMAL WORKING PAPER AND URGED THAT IT BE TREATED AS SUCH AND BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL.

2. DAYAN SAID HE COULD NOT REPLY ON THE SPOT FOR HIS GOVERNMENT BUT THAT HE AND HIS COLLEAGUES WOULD LIKE TO ASK SOME QUESTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF CLARIFICATION.

3. DURING ENSUING DISCUSSION, ISRAELIS FOCUSED THEIR QUESTION IN PARTICULAR ON THE FOLLOWING:

A. IN PARAGRAPH 2.E. OF PAPER, WHO WOULD DISCUSS WHICH SUBJECTS WITH WHOM? DAYAN SAID HE ASSUMED EGYPT HAD BEEN INCLUDED TO PARTICIPATE IN DISCUSSIONS ON GAZA WHICH WAS UNDERSTANDABLE BUT HE WONDERED WHO "OTHERS" REFERRED TO. HE DID NOT, FOR EXAMPLE, WANT SYRIA TO PARTICIPATE IN DISCUSSION ABOUT THE WEST BANK. HE ASSUMED THAT "OTHERS" HAD BEEN INCLUDED FOR PURPOSES OF DISCUSSING REFUGEE QUESTION, WHICH HE STILL FELT SHOULD BE DEALT WITH OUTSIDE OF GENEVA CONFERENCE.

B. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, HABIB CONFIRMED THAT PHRASE "AS DETERMINED AT THE OPENING SESSIONS OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE" IN PARAGRAPH 2.E. REFERRED TO THE DETERMINATION OF WHAT OTHER PARTIES MIGHT PARTICIPATE IN DISCUSSION OF ISSUES COVERED IN THIS PARAGRAPH.

C. ISRAELIS ALSO ZEROED IN ON PARAGRAPH 3 OF WORKING PAPER, ARGUING THAT THIS SUGGESTED THE UNIFIED
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ARAB DELEGATION WOULD HAVE A CONTINUING ROLE AFTER THE OPENING SESSIONS AND WOULD WATER DOWN THE PRINCIPLE THAT SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BE ON A BILATERAL BASIS BY REQUIRING THAT THE RESULTS OF THE WORK OF THE BILATERAL WORKING GROUP OR SUBCOMMITTEES WOULD HAVE TO BE APPROVED BY THE PLENARY. DAYAN SAID HE WOULD THEREFORE PREFER THAT THE FIRST SENTENCE OF PARAGRAPH 2 BE AMENDED TO PROVIDE THAT WORKING GROUPS OR SUBCOMMITTEES WOULD BE FORMED FOR THE NEGOTIATION "AND CONCLUSION" OF PEACE TREATIES. HABIB SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD DAYAN'S POINT BUT THAT WE HAD SIMPLY NOT PROGRESSED FAR ENOUGH TO BE ABLE TO ANSWER HIS QUESTION; WE WOULD HAVE TO RESERVE AN INTERPRETATION ON THIS POINT, BUT AS PRACTICAL MATTER, IT SEEMED LIKELY THAT IF EGYPT AND ISRAEL COULD COME TO AN AGREEMENT, THAT AGREEMENT WOULD BE FINAL. HABIB ALSO MADE POINT THAT WE DID NOT ENVISAGE THE PLENARY TO BE IN CONTINUING SESSION; EMPHASIS WOULD BE ON BILATERAL AND (IN CASE OF WEST BANK, GAZA, PALESTINIAN AND REFUGEE QUESTIONS) FUNCTIONAL WORKING GROUPS OR SUBCOMMITTEES.

D. IN RESPONSE TO DAYAN'S QUERY WHETHER PLO MEMBERS REFERRED TO IN PARAGRAPH ONE OF WORKING PAPER WOULD BE ONLY WEST BANK AND GAZA RESIDENTS, HABIB SAID WE DO NOT EXCLUDE

AT THIS POINT PALESTINIANS WHO ARE NOT REPEAT NOT RESIDENTS OF WEST BANK OR GAZA. DAYAN ALSO ASKED WHETHER ISRAEL WOULD BE GIVEN THE NAMES OF PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATIVES BEFOREHAND. HABIB SAID THAT IN HIS PERSONAL VIEW HE WOULD SAY YES BUT HE WOULD TAKE THE QUESTION.

4. IN SUMMING UP ISRAELI QUESTION, DINIZ SAID HIS PRINCIPAL CONCERN WAS THAT WHATEVER FORMUAL WAS AGREED TO NOT LEAVE UNCERTAINTY ABOUT RELATIONSHIP OF PALESTINIANS TO PLO AND ABOUT INDEPENDENCE OF PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATIVES. IN THIS CONNECTION, OUR DRAFT PLACED PALESTINIANS ON EQUAL FOOTING WITH ARAB GOVERNMENTS IN PARAGRAPH 2.E.

5. DAYAN SUMMED UP HIS INITIAL REACTION AS FOLLOWS:
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A. HE WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED IF JERUSALEM SAID IT COULD NOT GO TO GENEVA ON THIS BASIS.
B. HE HAD SOME PROBLEM WITH THE TITLE OF THE PAPER BUT DID NOT PURSUE THIS.
C. HE WOULD LIKE FIRST SENTENCE OF PARAGRAPH ONE TO MAKE CLEAR THAT OPENING SESSIONS WERE ONLY CEREMONIAL AND THAT NO BUSINESS OR SUBSTANCE WOULD BE DISCUSSED THERE.
D. IT REMAINED ISRAELI POSITION THAT PALESTINIAN ARABS AT OPENING SESSIONS WOULD BE PART OF JORDANIAN DELEGATION. HE CLARIFIED THAT, SINCE AFTER OPENING SESSION THERE WOULD BE ONLY NATIONAL DELEGATIONS, IT WAS IMPORTANT FROM THE BEGINNING TO HAVE UNDERSTANDING ABOUT WHERE PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATIVES OF UNIFIED DELEGATION WOULD SIT WHEN ARABS WERE NO LONGER MEETING AS A UNIFIED DELEGATION.
E. IT ALSO REMAINS ISRAELI POSITION THAT PALESTINIANS AT CONFERENCE SHOULD NOT REPEAT NOT BE KNOWN MEMBERS OF PLO. IF PRESENT FORMULATION ABOUT "NOT WELL-KNOWN MEMBERS OF THE PLO" REMAINED, DAYAN SAID THERE WAS NO REPEAT NO POSSIBILITY THAT BEGIN WOULD AGREE.

6. DAYAN AGREED TO SEEK REACTIONS OF JERUSALEM TO WORKING PAPER AS IT NOW STANDS FOR HIS MEETING WITH SECRETARY FRIDAY AFTERNOON, SEPTEMBER 30.

7. ABOVE IS FOR EMBASSY'S INFORMATION, WE BELIEVE ANY NEGOTIATIONS ON THIS WOULD BE BETTER DONE HERE IN NEW YORK. SHOULD ANY POINTS BE RAISED WITH YOU, SUGGEST YOU NOTE THEM AND RESPOND BY SAYING YOU WILL REFER THEM TO US HERE. VANCE UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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